



MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT EXTRA-CURRICULAR POLICY

Revised 2006

Philosophy:

Participation in extra-curricular activities at Meridian High School is voluntary and therefore should be considered a privilege. A high priority is placed in extra-curricular programs on building positive character traits such as: **respect for authority, sportsmanship, high standards in academics, ethics and citizenship.** In order to reach those high standards, compliance with an established set of guidelines and policies is expected. Students who choose to participate in extra-curricular activities at Meridian must understand their obligation to maintain these standards. **Students must be a positive reflection of Meridian High School for the school, community, and all other schools that our representatives interact with.**

Definition:

"Extra-Curricular Activities" applies to all athletic teams, and all clubs, organizations and activities which occur at Meridian under the guidance of a coach or advisor and which are not parts of the regular curriculum of the school.

Expectations:

Every student who participates in extra-curricular activities at Meridian High School and his/her parent or guardian must read the Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and sign the participation form before the commencement of that activity.

Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

As a participant in Meridian High School's extra-curricular programs and activities, I understand that the following rules apply for the entire year. These rules are in effect from the first day of practice one year, through the first day of practice the following year.

Attendance:

A student participant must be in school **the entire day of a game/activity** in order to participate in that game/activity unless he/she has a prearranged excused absence. Students must also be in attendance **the entire day following a game/activity** unless they have a prearranged excused absence or an absence excused for illness or injury; not more than one of these exceptions is allowed in a school quarter. Any exception to this due to additional extenuating circumstances must be appealed through building administration.

Behavior:

The first violation of the following rules may result in a probationary period of one year (after the applicable discipline has been imposed). A further violation of the following rules, after a violation-free probationary period of one year, may be eligible to begin the "offense count" back at a first offense.

- No smoking
- No chewing of tobacco
- No excessive use of profane or vulgar language
- No engagement in any delinquent behavior
- Abide by all regulations as prescribed by the Meridian Board of Directors and Meridian High School Rules of Student Conduct, and understand that any act of exceptional misconduct as outlined in the Meridian Student Handbook will also be considered a violation of the MHS Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct.

All violations of the following rules are cumulative during the student's four years of high school.

- No use or possession of intoxicating beverages
- No use or possession of illegal drugs
- No misuse of OTC or prescription drugs
- Commit no unlawful acts
- Not to be present at any function or in any circumstance where alcohol or illegal drugs are involved.

First Offense:

The student will be immediately suspended from activities for fourteen calendar days to include a minimum of two complete games or contests. Should the period of suspension be less than fourteen days, the student will forfeit participation in two complete games/events in a subsequent sport or activity. The student may, at the discretion of the coach, be allowed to participate in practices but cannot take part in contests during the time of suspension.

Second Offense:

The student will be dismissed from the team/group for the remainder of that season. Should the period of suspension be less than twenty-one days, the student will forfeit participation in one-third of the games or events in a subsequent sport or activity. The student may, at the discretion of the coach, be allowed to participate in practices but cannot take part in contests during the time of suspension.

Third Offense:

The student will be suspended from participating in all extra curricular activity programs within the Meridian School District for the remainder of his/her high school career.

In all cases involving the use of illegal drugs or alcohol, the student shall be required to submit to a drug/alcohol evaluation by an accredited community agency and must abide by the recommendation of that agency before being reinstated.

Academic Eligibility:

In order to participate in extra-curricular activities, students must continuously demonstrate academic achievement. Evidence of passing grades must be presented every two weeks. If there are any failing grades, the student must bring the grade up to passing or have special circumstances approved by administration before participating in the next competition.

A student must pass all classes during the previous grading period as well as maintain passing grades throughout the quarter. If the student earns a grade of F, NC, or I, the student may begin participating in interscholastic competitions when...

◆ If the student received a grade of I:

When the incomplete has been made up and the teacher has submitted a passing grade to the registrar.

◆ If the student received a grade of NC:

When a weekly progress report shows that the student has 90% or better attendance for a minimum of three school weeks during the current semester.

◆ If the student has received a grade of F:

When, after a probationary period of three school weeks (during which a student may not play in games, but may practice) a progress report shows that the student is passing all classes and the student is participating regularly in a scheduled After School Study Program.

Or when the student documents successful completion of course work (pre-approved by school administration) that makes up credit for the same classes failed.

In addition, it is understood that as a member of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association, all students in the Meridian School District are subject to WIAA regulations.

Appeal Process:

A student dismissed from a team/group for violation of rules may petition the high school principal to arrange an appeals hearing. The hearing is to be held within three days of the petition. The appeals committee will consist of the athletic director, the principal and a teacher or coach selected by the principal. If additional conferences are necessary to resolve an issue, the student may appeal to the Superintendent.

Approval For Participation:

Every student who participates in interscholastic athletics (including cheerleaders) must have each of the following completed documents signed and on file through the office of the Athletic Director:

- ASB card
- Physical Examination Form
- Eligibility Form
- Paid Participation Fee

Equipment:

Students are fully responsible for all equipment checked out for the sport or activity in which they are engaged. Equipment is to be kept clean and in good condition, and it is the student's responsibility to turn in the equipment promptly at the end of the sports season. Students who fail to turn in equipment will not be allowed to participate in any subsequent sport or activity until they have done so.